

What is claimed is:

1. An image processing method for image processing
by using information indicating characteristics of all or
part of a consumer item and a routine thereof, comprising
5 the steps of

generating material module data indicating an
attribute of a material;

generating element generating processing module
data indicating an attribute of processing for generating
10 an element serving as a component of a first artifact,
that is, said consumer item, by using said material;

generating element module data indicating an
attribute of said element using said material module data
and said element generating processing module data;

15 generating first artifact module data
indicating an attribute of said first artifact using said
element module data;

generating second artifact module data
indicating an attribute of a second artifact to be linked
20 with said first artifact;

storing said first artifact module data and
said second artifact module data in a searchable form;
and

generating image data of a scene connecting
25 said first artifact and said second artifact by using

said stored first artifact module data and said second artifact module data.

2. An image processing method for image processing by using information indicating characteristics of all or
5 part of a consumer item and a routine thereof, comprising the steps of

generating element module data indicating an attribute of an element serving as a component of a first artifact, that is, said consumer item;

10 generating first artifact module data indicating an attribute of said first artifact by using said element module data;

generating second artifact module data indicating an attribute of a second artifact to be linked
15 with said first artifact; and

generating image data of a scene linking said first artifact and said second artifact by using said first artifact module data and said second artifact module data.

20 3. An image processing method as set forth in claim 2, further comprising the steps of inputting image data of a target element, analyzing the input image data, and generating said element module data by using said material module data and said element generating
25 processing module data selected based on results of the

analysis.

4. An image processing method as set forth in claim 2, further comprising the steps of
generating material shape module data obtained
5 by gathering information relating to a shape of said material, material color module data obtained by gathering information regarding a color of said material, material texture module data obtained by gathering information regarding a texture of said material, and
10 material combination module data obtained by gathering information indicating a combined pattern of the shape, color, and design of said material and
generating said element module data by
combining information gathered with at least one of said
15 material shape module data, said material color module data, and said material pattern module data based on a combined pattern indicated by said material combination module data.

5. An image processing method as set forth in
20 claim 4, further comprising the steps of inputting image data of a target element, analyzing the input image data, and generating said element module data by using said material combination module data, said material shape module data, said material color module data, and said
25 material pattern module data selected based on results of

the analysis.

6. An image processing method as set forth in claim 2, further comprising the steps of
generating first artifact generating processing
5 module data indicating an attribute of processing
performed by using said element so as to obtain said
first artifact and

generating said first artifact module data by
using said element module data and said first artifact
10 generating processing module data.

7. An image processing method as set forth in claim 6, further comprising the steps of inputting image data of a target first artifact, analyzing the input image data, and generating said first artifact module
15 data by using said element module data and said first artifact generating processing module data based on results of the analysis.

8. An image processing method as set forth in claim 2, further comprising the steps of
20 generating second artifact part module data indicating an attribute of a part of said second artifact;

generating second artifact generating
processing module data indicating an attribute of
25 processing for obtaining said second artifact by

combining a plurality of said parts; and
generating said second artifact module data by
using said second artifact part module data and said
second artifact generating processing module data.

5 9. An image processing method as set forth in
claim 8, wherein said second artifact part module data
includes information indicating a relationship with
another second artifact part and said first artifact.

10 10. An image processing method as set forth in
claim 2, further comprising the steps of inputting image
data of a target scene, analyzing the input image data,
and generating said image data by using said first
artifact module data and said second artifact module data
selected based on results of the analysis.

15 11. An image processing method as set forth in
claim 2, further comprising the steps of generating at
least one at least one of said element module data, said
first artifact module data, said second artifact module
data, and said scene based on information on an
20 environment wherein said first artifact or said second
artifact is used or an environment to which said scene is
applied.

25 12. An image processing method as set forth in
claim 2, further comprising the step of generating image
data of said scene based on information regarding at

least one of a background, visual point, and light source of said scene.

13. An image processing method as set forth in claim 2, further comprising managing at least one of said module data by defining it using an object oriented object or file, classifying it in accordance with its attributes, and adding a tag in accordance with the classification.

14. An image processing method as set forth in claim 2, wherein said module data indicates said attributes by using at least one of an image, sound, and text.

15. An image processing method as set forth in claim 2, wherein said module data is a hyper data having a hyperlink function for referring to another entity.

16. A program indicating a routine of image processing using information indicating characteristics of all or a part of a consumer item or its routine and executed by a computer, comprising:

a routine for generating element module data indicating an attribute of an element serving as a component of a first artifact, that is, said consumer item;

a routine for generating first artifact module data indicating an attribute of said first artifact by

using said element module data;

a routine for generating second artifact module data indicating an attribute of a second artifact to be linked with said first artifact; and

5 a routine for generating image data of a scene wherein said first artifact and said second artifact are linked by using said first artifact module data and said second artifact module data.

17. An image processing apparatus for image
10 processing using information indicating characteristics of all or part of a consumer item or its routine, said apparatus

generating element module data indicating an attribute of an element serving as a component of a first
15 artifact, that is, said consumer item;

generating first artifact module data indicating an attribute of said first artifact by using said element module data;

generating second artifact module data
20 indicating an attribute of a second artifact to be linked with said first artifact; and

generating image data of a scene wherein said first artifact and said second artifact are linked by using said first artifact module data and said second
25 artifact module data.

18. An image processing apparatus as set forth in claim 17, said apparatus further

generating material module data indicating an attribute of a material;

5 generating element generating processing module data indicating an attribute of processing for generating said element by using said material; and

generating said element module data indicating an attribute of said element generated by processing said
10 material by using said material module data and said element generating processing data.

19. An image processing apparatus as set forth in claim 18, said apparatus further inputting image data of a target element, analyzing the input image data, and
15 generating said element module data by using said material module data and said element generating processing module data selected based on results of the analysis.

20. An image processing apparatus as set forth in claim 17, said apparatus further

generating material shape module data obtained by gathering information relating to a shape of said material, material color module data obtained by gathering information regarding a color of said material,
25 material texture module data obtained by gathering

information regarding a texture of said material, and material combination module data obtained by gathering information indicating a combined pattern of the shape, color, and design of said material and

- 5 generating said element module data by combining information gathered with at least one of said material shape module data, said material color module data, and said material pattern module data based on a combined pattern indicated by said material combination
- 10 module data.